

## DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/5<sup>1</sup>

### STRATEGIC WARNING

(Effective 3 March 1975)

Pursuant to provisions of NSCID No. 1, the position of Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence for Strategic Warning and a Strategic Warning Staff are hereby established.

#### 1. *Mission*

The mission of the Special Assistant, with the support of the Strategic Warning Staff, is to advise and assist the Director of Central Intelligence in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities with respect to the provision of strategic warning intelligence.

#### 2. *Definition*

Strategic warning is defined as the earliest possible warning that the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact, the PRC, or North Korea is considering military action by its armed forces beyond its borders, or is employing its military capabilities beyond its borders in ways that might threaten military confrontation with the U.S.

#### 3. *Functions*

The functions of the Special Assistant and the Strategic Warning Staff are:

a. To carry on a continuing analysis of information and intelligence from all sources which might provide strategic warning.

b. When the situation warrants it, to issue strategic warning notices to the DCI, who will notify the President and National Security Council or take such other action as he deems necessary. The DCI will also transmit the strategic warning notices to the USIB Principals for further dissemination within their departments and agencies. When time is of the essence, the Special Assistant may issue such notices directly to the President and NSC with concurrent dissemination to the DCI and USIB Principals.

c. To make to the DCI (and in time critical situations laterally to other USIB Principals) such other reports on the status of strategic warning as the Special Assistant may direct.

d. To conduct and submit to DCI and USIB Principals studies and analyses with a view to improving the capabilities of the Intelligence Community to provide strategic warning and with due consideration for related work being done elsewhere in the community.

<sup>1</sup> This directive supersedes DCID 1/5, effective 23 April 1965.

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e. To arrange with appropriate departments and agencies of the Government for the prompt forwarding to the Strategic Warning Staff of all the information it needs to carry out its mission.

**4. Community Responsibilities**

a. The responsibilities of USIB departments and agencies in support of the Special Assistant and the Strategic Warning Staff are:

(1) To provide full-time, senior professional intelligence personnel to the Strategic Warning Staff and other support as arranged by the Special Assistant.

(2) To provide to the Strategic Warning Staff on a timely basis all information from every domestic and foreign source pertinent to the strategic warning mission, as is prescribed in NSAM 226.

b. The DIA shall provide the facilities for the Strategic Warning Staff, including communications, data processing, logistic and administrative support.

**5. Composition and Organization**

a. The Special Assistant for Strategic Warning shall be appointed by the DCI in consultation with the Director, DIA.

b. The Strategic Warning Staff shall be directed by a CIA officer appointed by the DCI. He shall be directly responsible to the Special Assistant and shall serve as his deputy for strategic warning.

c. The Strategic Warning Staff shall be collocated with the National Military Intelligence Center and shall consist of intelligence officers assigned from appropriate elements of the Community in consultation with the Special Assistant.

**6. Review**

The Deputy to the Director of Central Intelligence for the Intelligence Community (D/DCI/IC) is hereby assigned responsibility for the formation of a USIB working group to review the functioning of the strategic warning process and to report periodically—at least annually—to the USIB on its findings.

W. E. Colby  
Director of Central Intelligence

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DCID No. 1/5  
(New Series)

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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/5<sup>1</sup>

## TERMS OF REFERENCE, WATCH COMMITTEE OF THE USIB

(Effective 23 April 1965)

## A. Name

Watch Committee of the USIB.

## B. Mission

To provide the United States Intelligence Board with the earliest possible intelligence warning of, and a continuing judgment on, Sino-Soviet Bloc intentions to engage in aggressive action by regular or irregular armed forces.

Needs  
updating

## C. Functions

1. To obtain from all USIB members and from other departments as appropriate the information and intelligence required by the mission of the Watch Committee, formulating intelligence collection requirements and recommending priorities as necessary.

2. To carry on a continuing analysis of information and intelligence from all sources to identify developments, patterns and trends in Sino-Soviet Bloc activities which could provide indications of intentions to engage in aggressive action.

3. Based on the foregoing, to develop conclusions or provisional estimative judgments as necessary as to Sino-Soviet intentions to engage in aggressive action; to consider current and prospective situations and developments which could lead to aggressive action by the Bloc; and to report promptly to the USIB the Committee's findings in these matters including such divergent views as may be recorded; and, following USIB action to provide for dissemination to other recipients as appropriate.

## D. Composition and Organization

The Watch Committee will be composed of a Senior Officer representing each USIB member and a Chairman who will be designated by the Director of Central Intelligence after consultation with the USIB.<sup>2</sup> The Committee will be supported in its duties and responsibilities by its operational and administrative staff, the National Indications Center (NIC). The Center will be headed by a Director to be provided by CIA and staffed with professional intelligence and administrative personnel furnished by participating agencies.

<sup>1</sup> This Directive supersedes DCID No. 1/5 (New Series) of 27 February 1963.

<sup>2</sup> The Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force will be represented by observers at Watch Committee meetings.

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*E. Duties and Responsibilities*

The Watch Committee, or the National Indications Center, as appropriate, shall:

1. Arrange through the USIB or its members for the exploitation of every domestic and foreign source for intelligence information pertinent to the Watch Committee mission and for the prompt forwarding of such information to the NIC.
2. Arrange with appropriate departments and agencies of the Government for the prompt forwarding to the Watch Committee or the NIC that information required to be made available by the terms of NSAM No. 226.
3. Develop and maintain continuing analyses of developments, patterns and trends in Sino-Soviet Bloc activities pertinent to the Watch Committee mission, working in liaison and coordination with concerned USIB agencies to evaluate significant indications.
4. Maintain a 24-hour watch function to analyze incoming information, obtain from USIB agencies additional information and evaluations of significant developments and alert members of the Watch Committee and NIC as required.
5. Develop and maintain intelligence support materials and systems, including automatic data processing systems, as may be required to support the mission of the Watch Committee.
6. Review periodically USIB-approved lists of indicators of hostilities, other guidance for intelligence analysis and collection, and the capability of the intelligence community to provide warning information pertinent to the mission of the Committee, recommending improvements in substantive analysis and techniques and calling on USIB agencies for assistance where appropriate.
7. Perform such additional tasks as shall be required by the USIB in the discharge of the Watch Committee mission.

JOHN A. McCONE  
Director of Central Intelligence